

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method for providing traffic information concerning one or more specific sections of a route to a traveler, comprising the steps of:

generating a bundle of traffic advisory messages for the traveler when an event relevant to the traffic situation has occurred in an affected section of the highway, wherein each of the traffic advisory messages present in the bundle of traffic advisory messages describes the traffic-relevant event in question at a different time within a defined interval; and

selecting a relevant message from the bundle of traffic advisory messages which is valid at a time relevant to the traveler.
2. (original) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting a relevant message is performed by the traveler.
3. (original) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, further comprising the step of sending the bundle of traffic advisory messages to a terminal of the traveler, wherein said step of selecting a relevant message is performed by the terminal.

4. (original) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting, by a service provider, the relevant message from the bundle of traffic advisory messages which is valid at a time relevant to the traveler.

5. (original) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein each of the traffic advisory messages includes an attribute "transit time", which indicates the time which will be required to drive through the traffic event described by the message.

6. (currently amended) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein the bundle of traffic advisory messages further include a bundle of transit time matrix information, the entries of these matrices indicating at least one of:

a travel time required to drive through the traffic event described by the bundle of traffic advisory messages at the time stated in each of the traffic advisory messages;

a travel time required to drive along the route ~~in question~~ from the a starting point to a first reported event,

a travel time between two reported events, and

a travel time between the last reported event and a destination of the traveler.

7. (currently amended) The method for providing traffic information of claim 6, wherein the bundle of transit time matrix information has a structure corresponding to that of the bundles of traffic advisory messages, said method further comprising the step of

calculating travel times on routes as sums of the travel times on free-flowing sections and the transit times through events.

8. (currently amended) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, further comprising the step of using, for the selection of the relevant time for the choice of the relevant traffic message from the traffic message bundle, the access function $n(t) = i$ if: $T_i - \frac{1}{2}\Delta t \leq t \leq T_i + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t$, where

i is an index number of traffic advisory messages in the bundle of traffic advisory messages,

T_i is a time associated with the traffic advisory message i ,

t is the time that the traveler will reach the traffic event described by the bundle of traffic advisory messages, and

Δt is a time defining the size of the time period for which traffic advisory message i is valid.

9. (currently amended) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein said step of generating a bundle of traffic advisory messages includes generating a prediction including traffic message bundles with future validity times.

10. (currently amended) The method for providing traffic information of claim 9, wherein said step of generating a bundle of traffic advisory messages includes providing the traffic advisory messages having future validity times with a value characterizing the a probability of the prediction.

11. (original) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein said step of generating a bundle of traffic advisory messages includes generating traffic message bundles with validity times in the past.

12. (currently amended) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting comprises calculating linear distances and assumed speeds for certain classes of roads to determine ~~the~~ a time relevant to the traveler.

13. (original) The method for providing traffic information of claim 1, wherein said traffic advisory messages relate to an overall road network of a certain size.